

6.(Once Amended) A method for preparing a fixed, Paraffin-embedded, dehydrated, slide-mounted tissue, for receiving an immunohistochemical stain thereon the method comprising the steps of:

providing a first batch of a single liquid composition comprising an emulsifier, a tissue activating agent and water, wherein the single liquid composition is capable of substantially removing the paraffin, substantially unmasking the tissue, and substantially hydrating the tissue;

immersing the slide containing the tissue thereon in said single liquid composition for a combination of time and temperature sufficient to substantially remove the paraffin, substantially unmask the tissue, and to hydrate the tissue; and

rinsing the slide.

7. Please cancel claim 7.

8.(Once Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the aqueous emulsifying solution is a detergent and water.

9.(Once Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the detergent of the single liquid composition is in a concentration range of between .1 and .5 percent.

10.(Once Amended). The method of claim 8 wherein the detergent of the single liquid composition is: Igepal-630, Tween20, Brij 35, Brij 99, Triton X-100, CD TAB, or Tween 80.

11. Please cancel claim 11.

12.(Once Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the tissue activating agent is one of the following:

a chelator or a buffer.